

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
December 22, 2010

The CODI Meeting was called to order by Mr. Martinez, Chairman at 1:46 pm. Roll call was done.

Attendance: J. Martinez, J. Miller, J. David, S. Hix, A. Rigerman, S. Kohlenberg, R. Fulton, D. Valkema, J. Granda and P. Edwards.

The agenda and the minutes from the October 2010 and the November 2010 were approved.

Access Committee: Mr. David, Chair, reported that he had a meeting on December 9th. Service animals and signs at parks were discussed. It was stated that at three parks there were signs that said "no dogs allowed." The committee would like the signs to read "no pets allowed except service animals." Mr. David said one park was in the municipality of Pinecrest; Ms. Hyams asked if the other parks were Miami-Dade parks? Mr. David said he would give Ms. Hyams the address of the two other parks. Mr. New from the Miami Beach Disability Advisory board has asked for CODI's support in addressing an inaccessible walkway which is located in Miami Beach at 11 Lincoln Road.

Transportation Committee: Ms. Valkema, Co-Chair, reported that there are three people including herself on the committee: Sandra Hix, John Miller, and Denny Wood. She went on to say that Ms. Gonzalez, ADA Coordinator for Transit, had looked into elevator call buttons on Metro-Rail stations and had found them to be compliant with regulations. She will check the call buttons on the elevators at the Metro-Mover stations. The question of English proficiency of the para-transit drivers was discussed and the subject will be further discussed at the next Transportation meeting. Ms. Valkema said that Mr. Wood had sent a long list of transit issues to her and she would be working with Ms. Hix and Ms. Hyams to see how and when they might be able to be addressed. Ms. Gonzalez had sent her a three month performance record of the elevators and escalators at Transit stations. Ms. Hix, Co-Chair of the committee, also said that she feels that riders are not going to the Riders meetings held by Miami-Dade Transit because the meeting is held at an inconvenient time and that the meeting is too short being only one hour in duration. The next CODI Transportation committee meeting will be January 10th from 2:00-4:00 pm.

Housing Committee: Mr. Fulton, Co-chair, said there must be enforcement to keep affordable housing affordable and that there still is a need for accessible and affordable housing. David Raymond, Director of the Homeless Trust had come to the last Housing meeting. Mr. Fulton hopes to invite Mr. Raymond to a monthly CODI meeting.

New Business: SUNSET REVIEW

A motion was made by Alan Rigerman and seconded by Paul Edwards to accept the Sunset Review questionnaire and to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that the Commission on Disability Issues continue as an advisory board. Motion was passed unanimously.

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| District 1 | John Miller | Yes |
| District 3 | Jose Granda | Yes |
| District 4 | Sandra Hix | Yes |
| District 5 | Jose Martinez | Yes |
| District 7 | Jackson David | Yes |
| District 8 | Paul Edwards | Yes |
| District 9 | Ronald Fulton | Yes |
| District 10 | Sam Kohlenberg | Yes |
| District 11 | Denise Valkema | Yes |
| District 13 | Alan Rigerman | Yes |

The ADA office and the Chair of CODI, Mr. Martinez, had worked on the Sunset Review Questionnaire together. Prior to the meeting, the CODI board had been given the Review Questionnaire for them to review and comment. However it was felt that the entire board would like to participate in the development of the answers to future questionnaires. **A Motion was made by Paul Edwards and seconded by Sandra Hix that for in October of 2012, CODI would like to begin the review of the documentation. If staff has not received the 2013 Sunset Review questionnaire by then, CODI would like to work off of the 2011 Sunset Review. The Motion was passed unanimously.** The Chair suggested that an Ad Hoc committee be formed and Paul Edwards, John Miller, Ernie Martinez and Ron Fulton have agreed to sit on the committee. One of the first items to be discussed at the Ad Hoc committee is to make the AD Hoc committee responsible for the Sunset Review questionnaire as suggested by Mr. Edwards.

There was discussion on having weekly meetings for CODI Education/Outreach and for CODI transportation meeting. Mr. David will be Chairman of the Education/Outreach committee and Ms. Hix will be Chairman of the weekly Transportation meeting. Every Tuesday from 4:00-4:30 there will be an Education/Outreach meeting and the Transportation meeting will be from 4:30-5:00 both will be held at the Center for Independent Living. The Chairs of those meetings will be responsible for sending out information on the meetings and taking minutes. Ms Hyams will calendar the meetings on the County calendar. If any changes occur or there is a cancellation, Ms Hyams must be notified so she can remove the meeting from the Miami-Dade Calendar. It was stated that the regular monthly CODI Transportation meeting is still be held the first Monday of the month from 2:00-4:00 at the County and that the monthly Access meeting will still be on the second Thursday of the month at the location to be announced the time for the meeting will be from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

There was general discussion about the lack of riders at the Riders meetings. It was stated that there are three issues: the time of meeting- length of meeting- and the cost (\$6). Mr. Martinez asked Ms. Hix to address in the committee how CODI can improve the attendance at the Riders Meeting. It was suggested that Miami-Dade Transit needs to do a better job in advertising the meetings. Ms. Solla said that people can call into the meetings by using this number and code – 1-800-501-8979 code 2174951. It was also stated that much of the meeting is for people to complain about their individual issues; it was suggested it would be better if information could be given out or if Riders might be involved in helping make policy. Mr. Edwards suggested to Ms. Hix that her committee might be able to make a recommendation to Transit on a different date and time for the meetings.

There was discussion on advertising for the CODI meeting. Mr. Rigerman said that advertising in the Neighborhood section for the Miami Herald under the Community Calendar. Mr. Edwards suggested that some of the student organizations might be interested in coming to meetings. Mr. Martinez asked about conferencing meetings. Ms. Hyams said that she is hoping to have an intern who might take on that project. Right now there are some options but they all involve money and the impact to the ADA budget has to be assessed. Mr. Martinez said he would try to get money.

There was discussion about the agenda. It was suggested that there is a place early on the agenda for announcements to be placed. It was also stated that Open Discussion on the agenda should be changed to Open Forum. That the Open Forum should be time certain at 3:00 and run for only 30 minutes. **A Motion was made by Paul Edwards and seconded by John Miller to have at the next two meetings an Open Forum; with a time certain at 3:00 going until 3:30pm with an allotment of 2 minutes per person. Motion passes unanimously.**

Mr. Rigerman asked if James Loffus the Director of the Miami-Dade Police Department or a member from his staff could be invited to one of the next CODI meetings so CODI members might be able to discuss the enforcement of various disability issues. **Motion made by Alan Rigerman and seconded by Paul Edwards to invite Director Loffus to the January CODI meeting to receive comments from CODI. Motion passed unanimously.** Mr. Martinez will call or email Director Loffus.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.